

## Message Text

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 01 BUENOS 04550 131838Z

73 R

ACTION ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 ONY-00 /011 W

----- 127347

R 131606Z JUL 76

FM AMEMBASSY BUENOS AIRES

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6311

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE BUENOS AIRES 4550

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PDIP, AR

SUBJECT: ARGENTINE REACTION TO BICENTENNIAL

REF: (A) STATE 169682, (B) BUENOS AIRES 4416

1. US BICENTENNIAL WAS OCCASION FOR OUTPOURING OF EXPRESSIONS AND DEMONSTRATIONS OF GOOD WILL TOWARD AND ADMIRATION FOR US. MOST NEWSPAPERS RAN SPECIAL EDITIONS OR SECTIONS; TV CHANNELS AND RADIO STATIONS CARRIED SPECIAL FEATURES. (ONLY MOON-LANDING RIVALED BICENTENNIAL IN FAVORABLE ATTENTION TO US). ATTEANDANCE AT EMBASSY RECEPTION WAS WITHOUT PRECEDENCE IN RECENT YEARS (SEE REF B), AND EMBOFFS REPORTED RECEIVING FLOWERS AND CONGRATULATIONS FROM NEIGHBORS ON MORNING OF JULY 4. IN ADDITION, VARIOUS PROFESSIONAL AND CIVIC ORGANIZATIONS HELD COMMEMORATIVE FUNCTIONS. ACADEMY OF LAW AND SOCIAL SCIENCES, FOR EXAMPLE, OFFERED LECTURE SERIES ON "CONSTITUTIONALISM IN US," GENERAL THRUST OF WHICH WAS THAT US ONE OF FEW COUNTRIES IN WORLD WITH REAL RULE OF LAW AND WHERE CONSTITUTION REIGNS ABOVE ANY WHO WOULD ABUSE IT.

2. ARGENTINE COMMITTEE TO CELEBRATE US BICENTENNIAL ORGANIZED ITSELF WEEK BEFORE JULY 4 (WITH NO PROMPTING FROM--OR EVEN COORDINATION WITH--EMBASSY) AND STAGED WREATH-LAYING AT GEORGE WASHINGTON MONUMENT AND DINNER ON NIGHT OF JULY 6 WHICH SO WELL ATTENDED MANY HAD TO BE TURNED AWAY AT DOOR.

3. VERY POSITIVE (ONE MIGHT ALMOST SAY "EFFUSIVE") REACTION MAY SEEM CURIOUSLY OUT OF CHARACTER FOR ARGENTINES, GIVEN

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 02 BUENOS 04550 131838Z

HISTORIC SENSE OF RIVALRY THEY ONCE HAD VIS-A-VIS US. COMMENTS

MADE TO US BY MEMBERS OF GOVERNMENT AND BY PRIVATE CITIZENS  
SUGGEST THAT ARGENTINES NO LONGER VIEW US IN THOSE TERMS;  
SENSE OF RIVALRY HAS BEEN MUTED (OR EXTINGUISHED) BY REALISTIC  
APPRAISAL OF ARGENTINA'S SITUATION. STILL WALLOWING IN TROUGH OF  
ITS OWN POLITICAL AND ECONOMIC PROBLEMS, ARGENTINA SEEMS NOW  
TO LOOK WITH GRUDGING BUT NONTHELESS SINCERE ADMIRATION AT  
US AS COUNTRY WHICH HAS HAD ITS PROBLEMS BUT WHICH HAS SOLVED  
THEM WITHIN CONSTITUTIONAL FRAMEWORK AND GONE ON TO GREATNESS,  
AS ARGENTINA HAS NOT. AS ONE ARGENTINE FRIEND PUT IT TO  
EMBOFF: "US IS GREAT COUNTRY BECAUSE YOUR PEOPLE AND GOVERN-  
ENT TAKE THE LAW SERIOUSLY AND COOPERATE TO ACHIEVE NATIONAL  
GOALS. IF ARGENTINA ENJOYED EVEN A FRACTION OF THE CONSENSUS  
PREVAILING IN US AND IF PEOPLE OBEYED THE LAW AS THEY DO IN  
US, ARGENTINA COULD BE A PARADISE. BUT WE HAVE LITTLE HOPE  
THAT WE CAN CHANGE QUICKLY. YOU HAVE DEVELOPED ATTITUDES  
OVER 200 YEARS. SO HAVE WE. BUT OURS ARE ALL IN THE WRONG  
DIRECTION."

HILL

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** Z  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** n/a  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 13 JUL 1976  
**Decaption Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Decaption Note:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Action:** n/a  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** n/a  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:**  
**Disposition Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1976BUENOS04550  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** N/A  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Film Number:** n/a  
**From:** BUENOS AIRES  
**Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Image Path:**  
**ISecure:** 1  
**Legacy Key:** link1976/newtext/t19760762/aaaacccdd.tel  
**Line Count:** 79  
**Locator:** TEXT ON-LINE  
**Office:** ACTION ARA  
**Original Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** ONLY, LOU  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 2  
**Previous Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** ONLY, LOU  
**Reference:** 76 STATE 169682, 76 BUENOS AIRES 4416  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Authority:** schaefaj  
**Review Comment:** n/a  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 13 FEB 2004  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review History:** RELEASED <13 FEB 2004 by ThomasVJ>; APPROVED <24 SEP 2004 by schaefaj>  
**Review Markings:**

Margaret P. Grafeld  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
04 MAY 2006

**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Referrals:** n/a  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** ARGENTINE REACTION TO BICENTENNIAL  
**TAGS:** PDIP, AR  
**To:** SECSTATE WASHDC  
**Type:** TE  
**Markings:** Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006